

BIG BOWMAN POND STEWARDSHIP GUIDE

(revised July 2019)

This guide is for both owners and renters of property on Big Bowman Pond. Recent studies concluded in 2019 (“State of the Lake Report” and “Comprehensive Management Plan”) show the lake to be in good health. These reports are on our website <https://www.bowmanlakeny.org/>. In order to maintain the lake’s health and to preserve its beauty and quality, we offer the following recommendations:

GEESE

Please don’t feed the geese. They shouldn’t be encouraged to stay longer than necessary.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT

The lake is one of the few in the area not infested with invasive species. If you bring any boats, paddles, life preservers, floats, etc. which have been in other lakes, ponds or rivers, please wash them off thoroughly before putting them in the water. A guide for cleaning, drying and disinfecting fishing and boating equipment is located on the DEC website <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/50267.html>. Once invasive species are established, they are nearly impossible to get rid of. Prevention is the best control.

The lake does contain an abundance of bladderwort and lily species (non-invasive). Owners should consult the Comprehensive Management Plan on our website before undertaking any large scale removal of these plant species.

MOTORS

There is a town ordinance prohibiting the use of motorized watercraft on the lake.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Have your system inspected. Maintenance of your system prevents leaching of pollutants, nutrients, and bacteria into the lake.

NOISE

Be a good neighbor. Remember that voices and music carry over water.

WATER QUALITY

To maintain the excellent quality of the water, please don’t use soap or shampoo in the lake. In addition, avoid using fertilizers on your property. These can leach into the lake and feed the aquatic plants.